January 2002



The Hawaii State Legislature's

PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM

Hawaii State Capitol ♦ 415 South Beretania Street ♦ Room 401 ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Legislative Timetable

January

16th Opening Day.

22nd State-of-the-State Address.

24th One day recess.

25th Last day for introduction of bills.

February

I5th First Lateral (House). 21st -27th Mandatory 5 day recess.

March

Ist Filing deadline for First Decking.

4th One day recess

6th One day recess.

7th First Crossover.

13th Last day to intro substantive resolutions.

22nd Second Lateral.

April

5th Filing deadline for Second Decking.

8th One day recess.

10th One day recess.

IIth Second Crossover.

Last day to Disagree.

16th One day recess.

18th Deadline for final form of constitutional amendments.

22nd Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions. 25th Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.

26th Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.

29th One day recess.

May

Ist One day recess.
2nd Adjournment Sine Die.

Kicking Off 2002

Aloha, and welcome to the 2002 legislative session. As ever, the Public Access Room will be open 8:00 to 6:00 Monday through Friday, and 8:00 to 2:00 on Saturday during the session (and by appointment!).

We'll provide our usual array of services - answering phone inquiries, photocopying and distributing testimony, teaching workshops, conducting legislative broadcasts, providing work space and office equipment for people who come to visit the Capitol, and the dozens of other miscellaneous things we do in the course of a normal day.



Suzanne Marinelli, Public Access Coordinator

We hope you'll start the session right - by joining us for an Opening Day reception in Room 401 on January 16, 11:00 to 2:00. We'll serve our usual - light refreshments, good humor, and excellent information presented by our knowledgeable and friendly staff members. Please join us, and help us begin our twelfth year of helping Hawaii's citizens become truly informed legislative resources.

New Innovation for Testimony by E-mail

It's that time again-the start of a new year and a new session; and staff at the Public Access Room are scrambling to prepare. Like numerous other state offices and agencies, we are attempting to step up the productivity of our services by making certain technology-related changes. One of these modifications affects the way in which we receive testimony from the public; until now, we have been receiving everything - including concerns, inquiries, and testimony - through a single e-mail address at

par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

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We are happy to announce that starting this session we have set up an additional e-mail account specifically for the purpose of receiving testimony from the public. Last year we received more than 400 pieces of testimony by e-mail and are hoping this new improvement will prove to be even more effective and convenient this year. We will still be maintaining and monitoring our initial e-mail account but will be reserving it for general inquiries and concerns. Testimony you would like to transmit to us should be done via the new e-mail address at testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov. Make sure you include the committee name, bill number, the date, the time and place of the hearing as well as the number of copies needed (as listed on the hearing notice).

Meet the PAR Staff



Signe Nakamura

Signe graduated in December from UH with a degree in English. However, her interests range from Japanese language and literature to the biological sciences. In her spare time, she enjoys shopping for odds and ends (except during the holidays), playing various sports (but only with people who don't get unreasonably competitive), watching inane programs on TV, and cooking up mystery concoctions in the kitchen.



Shane Peters

Shane returns to the Public Access Room; this time as the manager. While thoughts of graduate school have been placed on the back-burner, he awaits word on a U.N. Indigenous Fellowship Grant to travel to Switzerland. In the meantime, he has dedicated what little time he has left (after long hours in the PAR) to enjoying time with his friends and playing music with his band.



Bob Jones

I was born sixty four years ago in Berkeley California. My family moved to So Cal where I grew up, went to school, married, raised a family and retired after thirty years at Lockheed Aircraft Corp. My real life started when my wife and I became unemployed in 1994 and migrated to Hawaii. After a year of hanging out at Kailua beach, a friend told me to get a job and stop annoying my wife. Since I was always complaining about politics and politicians he introduced me to the Legislature where he had been a fixture for years. I was hired for the 1995 session and have been here ever since. My avocations are fishing, fishing, fishing and working in my yard.



Sarah Jane Abrams

Sarah Jane Abrams recently graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design, where she studied film, animation, painting, and printmaking. After graduation she bought a one-way ticket to Honolulu, and is now determined to learn as much as possible about her new home. Her hobbies include arts 'n crafts, gardening, and going to the library. Here at the Capitol, she looks forward to helping, exchanging information, and learning about the legislative process.



Capsun Poe

Currently a senior majoring in Political Science at UH Manoa, Capsun is originally from Honaunau, South Kona on the Big Island. Working his second session in the Hawaii State Capitol, Capsun enjoys the challenging, fast-paced and people-friendly environment during Session. He also serves as the Student Regent on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.



Honu Huihui

A native Hawaiian, Honu was given her amakua by her grandmother. Our "Turtle" has been a volunteer in this room for several years. She says of herself: "I rose up out of the sea and came to work at the PAR".

January & February Workshop Schedule

The new session brings a new workshop schedule. Get a leg up on the process by signing up for a workshop. You may call the PAR at 587-0478 or email par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The Legislative Process and Citizen Participation

Learn more about how the legislature works, the committee structure, terminology, calendaring, and how you can interact to effect outcomes. For those who are new to the Legislature and those wanting a refresher on the process. Fri. I/II - Noon, Tues. I/IS - Noon, Tues. I/22 - Noon and 5:30 pm, Sat. I/26 - II:00 am, Tues. I/29 - Noon, Fri. 2/I - Noon, Tues. 2/5 - 5:30 pm, Tues 2/I2 - Noon, Fri. 2/I5 - Noon

Presenting Effective Testimony

Learn how to present effective testimony, written and oral, that best communicates your position to the legislators. **Mon. I/14 - Noon,**

Tues. 2/12 - Noon

Reading Legislative Documents

Be able to use and understand many of the forms, documents, and records the Legislature uses in its work. Fri. I/18 - Noon, Mon. I/28 - Noon, Tues. 2/5 - Noon

Useful Internet Sites

Bills, resolutions, hearing notices, biographies, maps, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and MORE are available over the internet.

Learn to navigate your way around several useful internet sites. Fri. I/25 - Noon, Tues.

I/29 - 5:30pm, Fri. 2/8 - Noon